

# Lions Roar Into Town

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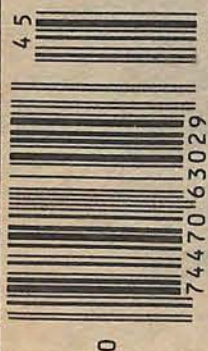
A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CHICAGO BEARS AND THE NFL.

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A Newspaper Devoted Exclusively  
To The Chicago Bears and The NFL

Vol. 10, No. 15 November 7, 1985

## On The Cover...

JIM McMahon (9) and Walter Payton rejoice after another Bears victory. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)



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## Commentary



By  
Doug  
Buffone



## Bears Prove They Are the Best

There was no doubt that the Packers were out to prove they weren't a pushover when they took the field against the Bears last Sunday. But despite all of the Packers' antics and the endless extracurricular activities, when the smoke cleared, the best team won.

For the past two weeks the Packers had been embarrassed. The Monday night loss to the Bears on national television was quite a blow to the Packer playoff hopes and the blowout at Indianapolis really put the nail in Green Bay's coffin. Adding fuel to the Packer fire were comments made by the Bears' players and coaches leading up to the rematch at Lambeau. Unfortunately, the Packers got a little carried away in their aggressiveness. It's one thing to play good, hard-nosed football but there is no place for cheap shots in the game. That clown Stills doesn't belong on a football field. If Forrest Gregg is smart, he will send Stills back to wherever he came from.

IT WAS ONLY A matter of time before the Bears would have to pull a game out in the final quarter. And they lived up to the test. The safety by Steve McMichael really lit the fire and Walter Payton's 27-yard touchdown run gave the Bears a 16-10 win, their ninth straight triumph. Nobody said staying undefeated is going to be easy.

A victory like this shows how far the Bears have come as a team. In the past, if the quarterback was having an off day, the Bears would be in big trouble. But the combination of a great defensive effort and Payton's running got the job done last Sunday.

The defense is getting stronger every week and it ap-

pears to be better than it was last year when it set a sack record and led the league in least yards allowed. Even though William Perry missed some tackles, I thought it was a good move putting him in the lineup and moving Hampton to end. It freed Danimal a bit and that resulted in two sacks. No opponent of the Bears has scored more than 10 points in a single game in the past four weeks. That's defense!

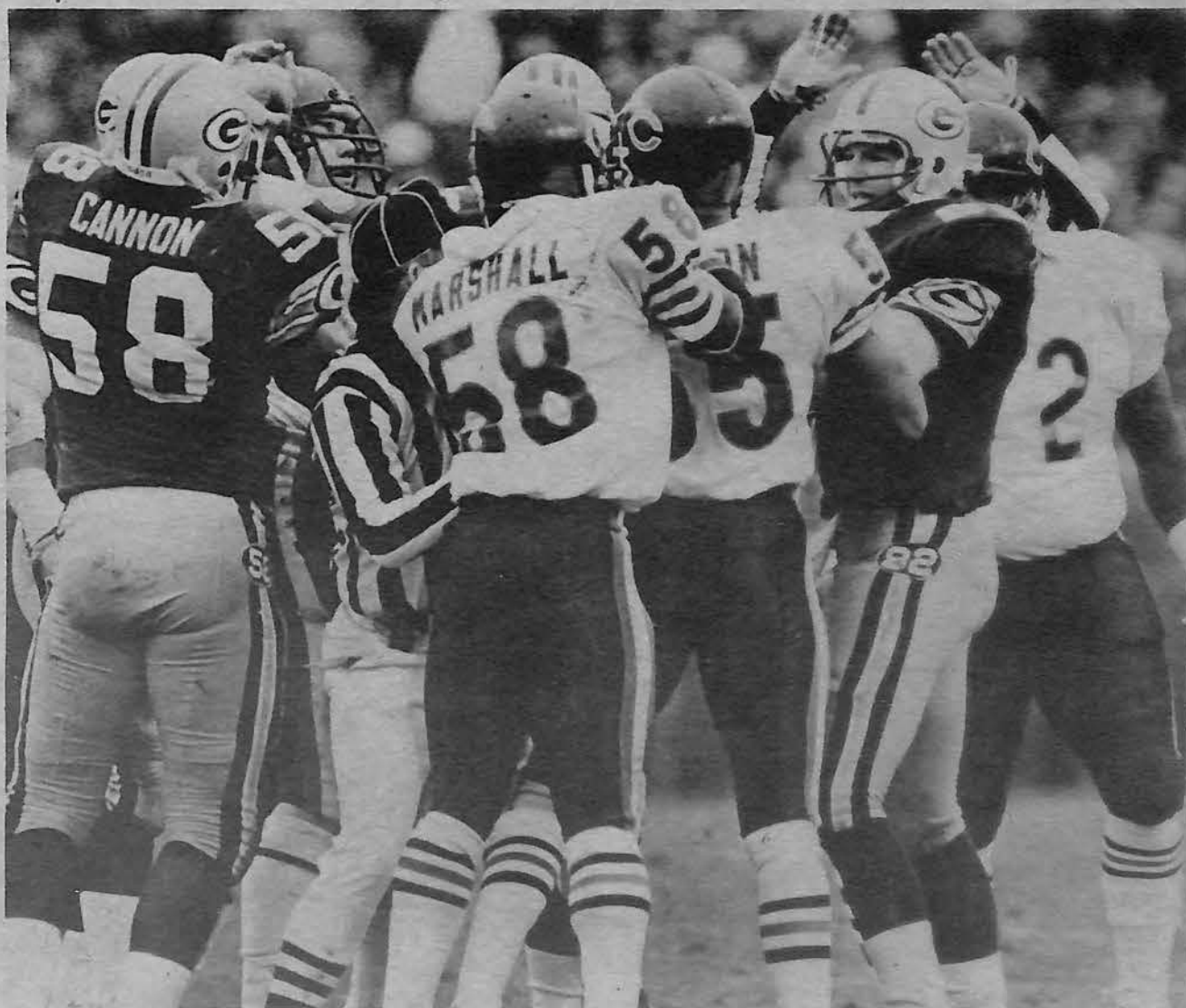
I'VE SEEN PAYTON perform throughout his entire career and I'm still amazed when he puts on a show like the one he displayed vs. Green Bay. He appears to be in peak form and may even win the NFL rushing title this year.

It's great to know the Bears can still rely on the running game when the passing game isn't working too well. There is no question QB Jim McMahon had an off day but credit must be given to the Packer defensive line for rushing McMahon quite a bit. In the first half, he hardly had any time to set up.

Next week's opponent, the Detroit Lions, are the only team left in the division which has a shot at stopping the Bears before they capture the crown. But don't count on it. The Bears are a far superior team and the Lions are an awful road club. Statistically, the Lions shouldn't have the record they currently possess and it is only the smart coaching of Darryl Rogers which has enabled them to post a 5-4 mark. Without Billy Sims, the Lions can't be considered a serious title threat.

\*\*\*\*\*

Doug Buffone's selections for the 10th week of the 1985 season can be found on Page 10 of this issue.



BEAR AND PACKER players get into a tussle during the first quarter. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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## Record Goes To 9-0

# Bears Survive a War vs. Packers

By Mark Friedlander  
Editor

GREEN BAY, WI — If a football game ever followed a script to a tee, it had to be last Sunday's Bear-Packer brawl which was played at Lambeau Field.

Since the last time the two teams met, on **Monday Night Football** on Oct. 21 at Soldier Field, the war of words between the two teams was endless. There was no doubt the next meeting between the two teams would turn into an all-out rumble.

**EARLY IN LAST** Sunday's game, Packer cornerback Mark Lee was thrown out of the game after he continued to pummel Walter Payton well beyond the sideline. The Packers, however, were far from through with their cheap shots. A few minutes later, rookie safety Ken Stills leveled FB Matt Suhey long after the play was over. Another unsportsmanlike conduct call was assessed to the Packers. Before the afternoon was over, the Bears would also get nailed for a few unsportsmanlike calls but fortunately they found enough time to put some points on the board and came away with a 16-10 victory. The win keeps the Bears' record perfect at 9-0 and gives them a four-game lead over the Vikings and Lions in the NFC Central.

"They played like damn animals," said LB Otis Wilson who was one of the Bears nailed with a unsportsmanlike penalty. "It was evident when they came out they didn't want to play football. They wanted to fight."

"I thought everybody should have taken their damn facemasks off and put some blacktops on out there," said DT Steve McMichael.

"I **DON'T THINK** there is any need for that kind of football," said C Jay Hilgenberg. "This is a profession. We're going out there to play as hard as we can. A lot of teams do that out of frustration because of their record."

While head coach Mike Ditka didn't see the foul committed against Payton, he wasn't happy that the situation occurred.

"In a game like this, tempers flair. I don't know why these things happen," he said. "You just don't like to see it happen especially when you cheap shot a guy like Payton. Here's a guy whose given as much to the game as anybody. I'm sure the kid (Lee) didn't mean it. He was just trying to make something happen."

**IT MAY BE** understandable why an opponent would try to knock Payton out of the game. He continues to run like a youngster and on Sunday surpassed the 14,000-yard career rushing mark by racking up 192 yards on 29 carries, a 6.9 average. His career total is 14,153 yards. He has rushed for over 100 yards in each of the last four games and now has 844 for the season. He also scored

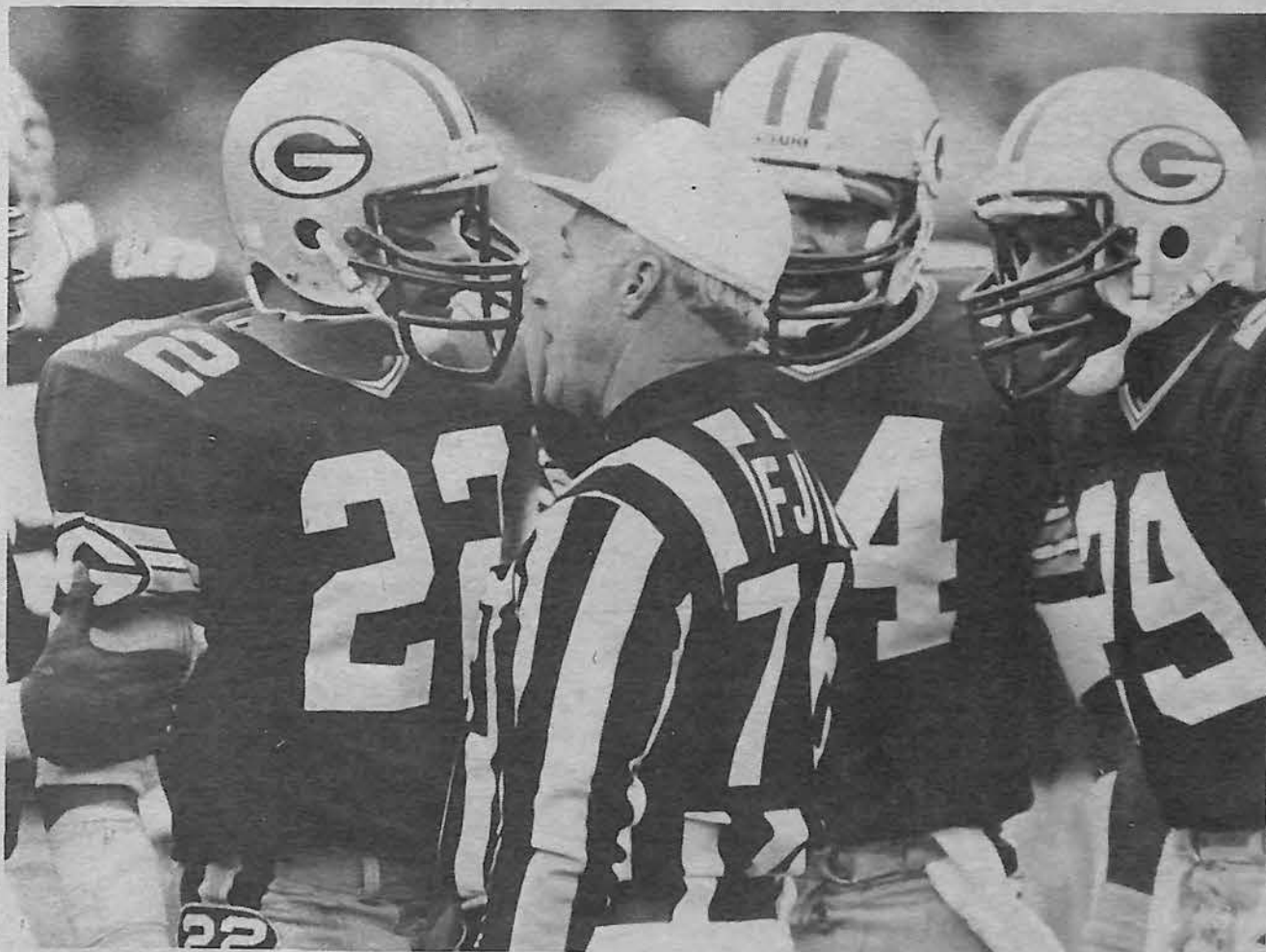
Continued Page 14



**RUNNING BACK WALTER** Payton (34) breaks free on his 27-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

## Injury Report

WR Willie Gault sustained bruised ribs in the first half vs. the Packers and did not return to the contest. He is expected to play vs. Detroit next Sunday. . . . FB Calvin Thomas (knee), WR James Maness (hamstring) and CB Mike Richardson (hamstring) missed the Packer game. Rookie Ken Taylor started in place of Richardson.



**PACKER CORNERBACK MARK** Lee (left) complains to an official after being ejected from the game in the first quarter. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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# Bears-Packers Official Statistics

## SCORING SUMMARY

Chicago	0	7	0	9	—	16
Green Bay	3	0	7	0	—	10

- 1 - Packers: Del Greco 40-yd. field goal (4-7 2:02)  
 2 - Bears: Perry from McMahon 4 yds., Butler PAT (11-65 5:17)  
 3 - Packers: Clark from Zorn 55 yds. Del Greco PAT (5-79 2:44)  
 4 - Bears: Safety McMichael tackle Zorn in end zone  
 4 - Bears: Payton 27 yds., Butler PAT (3-49 4:29)

WEATHER: Cloudy, 44 degrees, wind N-NW at 12-14 mph.

ATTENDANCE: 55,343 (tickets distributed 56,926); unused 1,583) TIME: 3:18

## FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Chicago	Green Bay
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	16	15
By Rushing	9	4
By Passing	5	7
By Penalty	2	4
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	2-11-18%	2-12-17%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-1	1-2
TOTAL NET YARDS	253	242
Total Off. Plays		
(Inc. times thrown passing)	60	57
Av. Gain per Off. Play	4.2	4.2
NET YARDS RUSHING	195	87
Total Rushing Plays	36	28
Av. Gain Per Rush. Play	5.4	3.1
NET YARDS PASSING	58	155
Times Thrown —		
Yds. Lost Att. To Pass	4-33	3-24
Gross Yds. Passing	91	179
PASS ATT. — COMP. —		
HAD INTERCEPTED	20-9-0	26-11-1
Av. Gain Per Pass Play		
(Inc. times thrown passing)	2.4	5.3
PUNTS — NO. AND AV.	8-38.9	6-35.7
Had Blocked	0	0
TOTAL RET. YARDAGE	9-112	7-70
No. and Yds. Punt Ret.	4-36	4-25
No. and Yds. KO Returns	4-86	3-45
No. and Yds. Interc. Ret.	1-0	0-0
PENALTIES — NO. AND YDS.	7-70	8-66
FUMBLES — NO. AND LOST	1-1	2-0
TOUCHDOWNS	2	1
Rushing	1	0
Passing	1	1
Returns	0	0
EXTRA PTS. MADE — ATT.	2-2	1-1
FG MADE — ATT.	0-0	1-1
TIME OF POSSESSION	30:57	29:03

## FINAL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

	Bears				
	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
RUSHING					
Payton	28	192	6.9	27	1

Suhey	4	6	1.5	4	0
Gault	1	0	0	0	0
McMahon	3	-3	-1	-1	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Tkd.	Yds.	TD	LG
McMahon	20	9	91	4-33	1	21	

PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Suhey	1	16	16	0
Moorehead	1	21	21	0
Wrightman	2	29	17	0
Payton	3	14	6	0
Perry	1	4	4	1
McKinnon	1	7	7	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.
Fencik	1

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Buford	8	311	38.9	1	2	49

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG
Taylor	1	1	11	11
McKinnon	1	0	6	6
Duerson	2	0	19	11

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG
Gentry	1	13	13
Gault	1	39	39
Taylor	1	18	18
McKinnon	1	16	16

FUMBLES	Fum.	Own	Rec.	Yds.
Payton	1	0	0	0

## Green Bay Packers

RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long
Ivery	9	26	2.9	11
Clark	17	58	3.4	13
Zorn	1	0	0	0
Lofton	1	3	3.0	3

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Tkd.	Yds.	TD	LG	Had
Zorn	26	11	179	3-24	1	55	1	Int.

PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Coffman	3	48	22	0
Epps	2	38	21	0
Ivery	2	22	19	0
Lofton	1	9	9	0
Clark	3	62	55	1

INTERCEPTIONS	None
---------------	------

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Prokop	6	214	35.7	1	1	40

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG
Hayes	1	0	0	0
Epps	3	2	25	14

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG
Ellis	2	42	23
Ellerson	1	3	3

FUMBLES	Fum.	Own	Rec.	Yds.	Opp.
Johnson	0	0	0	0	1
Hayes	1	1	0	0	0
Zorn	1	1	-1	0	0

## DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	Chicago						
	T	A	SK	YL	Int.	PD	FR
Frazier	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duerson	5	0	0	0	0	1	0
Gayle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taylor	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fencik	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Phillips	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Singletary	14	0	0	0	0	2	0
Wilson	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Marshall	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perry	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hartenstine	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMichael	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dent	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hampton	3	0	2	17	0	0	0
Sanders	1	0	0	0	0	0	0



DEFENSIVE TACKLE STEVE McMichael (in back) sacks Packer quarterback Jim Zorn for a safety in the fourth quarter. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

	Green Bay						
	T	A	SK	YL	Int.	PD	FR
Lee	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cade	5	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lewis	4	0	0	0	0	1	0
Hayes	5	0	0	0	0	1	0
Stills	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Burgess	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Douglass	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scott	2	0	1	14	0	0	0
Anderson	5	0	1	5	0	0	0
Humphrey	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Noble	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	2	0	1	7	0	0	0
Martin	1	0	1	7	0	0	0
Dorsey	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Huckleby	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ellerson	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

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# McMahon Is One Of a Kind

The player Jim McMahon is most often compared to is Joe Montana.

"He makes good plays out of bad ones," 49er coach Bill Walsh says. "He's very, very similar to Joe."

**NEITHER IS BIG**, as quarterbacks go. Both win more with their heads and feet than with their arms. Both win a lot of games, period.

All in all, since Montana has played three more pro seasons than McMahon and won two more Super Bowl rings, it would seem to be a flattering comparison for McMahon.

If he is flattered, he doesn't show it. Great athletes are often that way. Comparisons reduce them to their peers, and great athletes prefer rising above their peers. Besides, the differences between McMahon and Montana cut much closer to the soul than their similarities.

**"JIM'S NOT WHAT** people think about as a pro football quarterback when they're growing up," says Jay Hilgenberg, McMahon's center with the Bears. Montana, on

He doesn't have to deck out in such outrageous get-ups for TV cameras. His chewing tobacco doesn't stretch his lower lip beyond his nose after the cameras are gone. He could protect his light-sensitive eyes with sunglasses that don't have mirrors or quarter-inch slits. He doesn't really have a reason for pulling a hood over his head and putting a sweat band over the hood.

But if he didn't do those things, people might think he's just another pretty-boy quarterback. That would be enough to make him puke. McMahon's costume might be a put-on, but his fear and loathing of being lumped with the cookie-cutter quarterbacks is very sincere.

**SO IS HIS** contempt for convention and authority in general. "His goal," says Margerum, "is to make the cover of *Rolling Stone*."

When McMahon came off the bench to beat Minnesota with three quick touchdown passes, he all but spiked the ball at the feet of Ditka, who had made him furious by benching him in the first place. Even Mike McCaskey, the Bears' president and ultimate authority, laughs when he thinks of McMahon's motivation that night.

"That's why he's a great quarterback," Margerum says of McMahon's nonconformism. "Defenses have all these computer printouts of what you're going to do on first-and-10 and second-and-long and third-and-three, and Jim just goes against all convention of what he's supposed to do. A lot of big plays go to a completely different receiver than the one that was planned. You can't defend that."

**McMAHON HAS NEVER** been far from authority's thumb, growing up Catholic and going to a Mormon school. "I was on probation my whole time" at Brigham Young, he says. Recently, a Utah writer asked him for his fondest memory of BYU, and he said, "Leaving."

"I think his image attracts a lot of people. It also offends a lot of people," tackle Keith Van Horne says. "Not that he cares. But people have an idea of what a quarterback should be. Most quarterbacks are kind of reserved. Jim's not that way."

"He's more of an offensive lineman than a quarterback at times," Hilgenberg says.

"**I LIKE HITTING** people," McMahon says.

When the television in the Bears' locker room was replaying the victory at Tampa Bay, McMahon wanted to share an upcoming highlight with some teammates. "See my block there, Bash?" he said to Brian Baschnagel.

*Continued Next Page*

By  
Kevin  
Lamb



the other hand, is exactly what they have in mind.

Montana is the pretty boy, with the aloof demeanor and the glamorous all-American image. McMahon clearly would rather bob for French fries than have anyone call him a pretty boy.

McMahon likes his outlaw image well enough to work at it.

**"HE LIKES TO** be disgusting on purpose, just to get a reaction out of people," says wide receiver Ken Margerum, who was McMahon's friend before they became Bears. It gives him a kind of mystique. I think that's healthy. It makes it hard for teams to get a read on us."



QUARTERBACK JIM McMAHON (9) gets ready to take the snap from center Jay Hilgenberg. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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# McMahon

Continued From Page 5

"Watch this. This time I get Cannon."

John Cannon is a defensive end, 6-5 and 260 pounds, 70 pounds heavier than McMahon. What could McMahon have been thinking?

**HE'S A FOOTBALL player**, that's what. He happens to play quarterback, but he has no use for the notion that quarterbacks should be kept under glass, protected like rare gems.

He rails against the rules that protect quarterbacks. He doesn't want special treatment. He won't even wear the red shirt in practice that tells defensive players to keep their hands off.

"He likes marks on his helmet," Van Horne says. "MOST QUARTERBACKS don't like to get hit," McMahon says. "It's part of the game. You don't want to get hit, you better not play this game. I enjoy pain. You've just got to deal with it. Teach your body who's boss."

Most of football's normal-sized players say they would rather find another sport than be offensive linemen. Especially the quarterbacks, accustomed as they are to riding the sedan chair instead of carrying it.



DEFENSIVE TACKLE DAN Hampton (99) zeroes in on Green Bay quarterback Jim Zorn. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

"Heck, if I was 6-4 and 280, I'd be a lineman," McMahon says. "I could have a good time doing that."

**HILGENBERG CAN EVEN** picture it. "He'd be a tough pulling guard," he says. "And he'd definitely be wearing black, high-top shoes."

McMahon wears those even at quarterback. He smokes linemen's cigars, butts their heads and rolls his sleeves up, just the way linemen do to keep from being held.

"When he rolled his sleeves up, I thought, now that's going too far," guard Kurt Becker says. "I told him, you should cover those arms up instead of showing them."

**McMAHON SAYS WORSE** than that to the linemen.

"Sometimes he spits at us," Van Horne says.

"After a timeout," Becker says, "we'll be standing in the huddle and he gets there and starts cussing at all of us to block somebody. The guys on the other team can't believe it. They're going, 'What's with this quarterback? He's cussing out his own linemen.'"

**THEY'RE HIS KIND** of people. McMahon goes out to dinner with them every Thursday. Becker is his roommate.

"They like to get sick and get dirty," he says. "That's what you've got to have. You can't have timid people on the offensive line when they're crazies on the defensive line. You've got to be just as nuts. Our guys are. They're a bunch of sick puppies."

No one has ever called McMahon timid, even if his position requires guttiness to be more cerebral than physical. In his second start as a rookie, he called an audible that wasn't in the game plan. Got a first down, too.

**HIS STRENGTH AS** a quarterback is the broken play, the instinctive ad lib that turns a sack into a touchdown. It's a skill that's more valuable than ever, coach Mike Ditka says, because defenses are blitzing more than ever. Speaking of Montana, the other ad libber, Ditka says, "I think Jim freelances more than Joe does even. Thank God."

It took Ditka some time to appreciate that, which was natural. Coaches don't send plays to the huddle in the spirit of suggestion. Ditka spent most of his coaching life in Dallas with Roger Staubach, another quarterback with the standard-issue lifestyle and work habits that McMahon disdains.

"He probably is most unlike any quarterback in the league," Ditka says now, "but that doesn't mean he is not more into the game than any other quarterback. Some guys look at film over and over. I think Jim looks at it once and then he starts thinking. He sees it in his head more than he would see it on a screen. He sees situations flash, and then he says, 'If this happens, I do this. If this happens, I go this way.'"

It works. Ditka still wishes McMahon would avoid contact more often than he looks for it, but he has learned to appreciate the benefits of having an iconoclast run his offense. He has taken the attitude Lincoln had toward Grant's drinking. Find out what brand he drinks and send a case to each of the other generals.

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# A Day Filled With Emotion After the Game Butler Learns Of Grandpa's Death

Sometimes the human side of pro sports is lost in all the hoopla surrounding a successful season or a spectacular player. The Bears are enjoying a successful season and Kevin Butler has had a spectacular rookie year so far. But after the Bears' win over the Vikings at Soldier Field two weeks ago, the human side of the rookie player



By  
Dick  
Gonski

was revealed in a dramatic setting.

Butler had kicked two field goals in the Bears' eighth consecutive win and was riding a streak of nine in a row and 15 of 17. His misses were from 63, 34, and 45 yards (twice), giving him 16 out of 20 and the league lead in scoring. In the euphoria that was the Bears' locker room, TV lights were blazing and reporters were swarming around any Bear player who happened to be talking to anyone. These days the Bears are BIG news.

**BUTLER BEGAN TALKING** to this reporter about his season so far. "My main concern in Soldier Field is kicking off because of the wind," he said. "Today was hard. The winds don't bother my field goal kicking yet, but they sure affect kickoffs. It's where the opponent gets the ball that concerns me," he continued.

Leading the league in scoring as a rookie doesn't impress Butler too much.

"I'm not surprised about it because we're scoring 27 to 30 points per game. I'm getting a lot of opportunities to score," he says.

**SAME THING ON** kicking field goals. The kid is enjoying a great year for the league's top team and the pressure doesn't seem to phase him, if there is any pressure at all.

"The opportunities I've had have been from high percentage field position and my misses have come from pretty far out," he said. True when you consider the two 45's and a 63.

Butler has continued the success he enjoyed at Georgia when he converted on 50 of 56 field goal attempts inside the 40-yard line in his four-year career.

**ONE OF THE REASONS** for his success as a placekick-

er, a lonely profession at best, is his cool exterior. Butler doesn't get outwardly excited very often and he isn't the leaping, hand-clapper that some NFL kickers have become. It's that cool that gets him through the tough spots.

But that's the football side of Kevin Butler. As the interview progressed, special teams coach Steve Kazor wandered over to Butler's locker and stood by silently as the interview continued. Noticing Kazor's presence, I asked if he wanted to speak with Kevin. Kazor nodded his head. Returning to his locker 30 seconds later, Butler grabbed me by the arm and said, "We'll have to continue this later, because something's happened." His eyes were misty and the look of pain on his face spoke for his inward feelings.

Mike Ditka came over to Butler and put his arm around the husky rookie. They spoke and Butler nodded his head. Obviously this was not the time to continue the interview.

**A FEW MINUTES** later, coach Kazor was standing near Butler's locker. I approached Kazor and inquired what had happened that could affect the young man like this when NFL pressure and beating out a veteran like Bob Thomas had hardly seemed to ruffle his hair.

Kazor replied, "His grandfather died." Kazor provided the details. "His mother called us yesterday with the news and told us not to tell Kevin until after Sunday's game because she knew it would upset him. His grandfather passed away on Friday." Butler had been close to his grandfather and the Bears handled this matter with the class they have exhibited on the field all year.

The interview was over and Butler had airline tickets ready for a Sunday night flight home.

**FORGOTTEN WERE THE** questions about the 60-yard field goal against Clemson and the 70-yarder he barely missed in his senior year. Forgotten were the questions about kicking field goals without a tee in pro ball, how he became a placekicker in the first place, different kicking conditions around the league, kicking indoors and the like.

This was a human story unfolding, not a story of an athlete, but a story of a young man who had lost his grandfather while kicking field goals in Chicago and around the country.

Perspective is what this story is determined to be about. The guys you watch every week are human beings and personal sadness happens to them as it does to us all.

**BUT WE FIND A** way to go on as Kevin Butler surely will. He is a quiet young man with respect for his elders. The Georgia drawl is even subdued. He has achieved so much in so short a time.

Losing a close relative hurts and Kevin undoubtedly had a lot of time to reflect and remember his grandfather on that flight back home after the Bears' eighth win. He had a chance to put life into perspective.

What really is important? On that particular Sunday the 8-0 record was secondary. A young man had lost grandpa and it hurt.



PLACEKICKER KEVIN BUTLER only got a chance to kick two extra points vs. the Packers. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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# Detroit Lions vs. Chicago Bears

Sunday, November 10

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12 Noon CST



## Chicago Bears' Numerical Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
4	Steve Fuller	QB	6-4	195	28	7	Clemson
6	Kevin Butler	K	6-1	204	23	R	Georgia
8	Maury Buford	P	6-0	191	25	4	Texas Tech
9	Jim McMahon	QB	6-1	190	25	4	BYU
18	Mike Tomczak	QB	6-1	195	22	R	Ohio St.
21	Leslie Frazier	CB	6-0	187	26	5	Alcorn St.
22	Dave Duerson	S	6-1	203	24	3	Notre Dame
23	Shaun Gayle	CB	5-11	193	23	2	Ohio St.
26	Matt Suhey	FB	5-11	216	27	6	Penn St.
27	Mike Richardson	CB	6-0	188	24	3	Arizona St.
29	Dennis Gentry	RB	5-8	181	26	4	Baylor
31	Thomas Sanders	RB	5-11	203	23	R	Texas A&M
31	Ken Taylor	CB	6-1	185	21	R	Oregon St.
33	Calvin Thomas	FB	5-11	245	25	4	Illinois
34	Walter Payton	RB	5-10	202	31	11	Jackson St.
45	Gary Fencik	S	6-1	196	31	10	Yale
48	Reggie Phillips	DB	5-10	170	24	R	S. Methodist
50	Mike Singletary	LB	6-0	228	26	5	Baylor
51	Jim Morrissey	LB	6-3	215	22	R	Michigan St.
52	Cliff Thrift	LB	6-1	230	29	7	E.C. Oklahoma
55	Otis Wilson	LB	6-2	232	27	6	Louisville
57	Tom Thayer	G-C	6-4	261	23	R	Notre Dame
58	Wilber Marshall	LB	6-1	225	23	2	Florida
59	Ron Rivera	LB	6-3	239	23	2	California
60	Tom Andrews	OL	6-4	267	24	2	Louisville
62	Mark Bortz	G	6-6	269	24	3	Iowa
63	Jay Hilgenberg	C	6-3	258	26	5	Iowa
70	Henry Waechter	DT	6-5	275	26	4	Nebraska
71	Andy Frederick	T	6-6	265	31	9	New Mexico
72	William Perry	DT	6-2	325	22	R	Clemson
73	Mike Hartenstein	DE	6-3	254	32	11	Pennsylvania St.
74	Jim Covert	T	6-4	271	25	3	Pittsburgh
75	Stefan Humphries	G	6-3	263	23	2	Michigan
76	Steve McMichael	DT	6-2	260	27	6	Texas
78	Keith Van Horne	T	6-6	280	27	5	USC
80	Tim Wrightman	TE	6-3	237	25	R	UCLA
81	James Maness	WR	6-1	174	22	R	Texas Christian
82	Ken Margerum	WR	6-0	180	26	4	Stanford
83	Willie Gault	WR	6-0	178	24	3	Tennessee
85	Dennis McKinnon	WR	6-1	185	23	3	Florida St.
86	Brad Anderson	WR	6-2	198	24	2	Arizona
87	Emery Moorehead	TE	6-2	220	31	9	Colorado
95	Richard Dent	DE	6-5	263	24	3	Tennessee St.
98	Tyrone Keys	DE	6-7	267	25	3	Mississippi St.
99	Dan Hampton	DT	6-5	267	27	7	Arkansas

### COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH: Mike Ditka

ASSISTANTS: Jim Dooley, Dale Haupt, Ed Hughes, Steve Kazor, Jim LaRue, Ted Plumb, Johnny Roland, Buddy Ryan, Dick Stanfel.



QUARTERBACK ERIC HIPPLE

### Special to the BEAR REPORT

PONTIAC, MI — At the midway point of the 1985 season, Detroit Lions' rookie head coach Darryl Rogers had done the impossible. Not only had Rogers kept his team in the NFC Central race, which was pretty tough considering the first place Chicago Bears had not lost a game, but he also had engineered victories over the Cowboys, 49ers and Dolphins. That helped the Lions maintain a 5-3 record at the halfway point. The Lions were all alone in second place, three games behind the Bears.

"WE'VE PROVEN WE can play with the best of them," says offensive tackle Keith Dorney.

"Maybe we've earned some respect," adds QB Eric Hipple. "We're getting rid of the loose ends. We know what we want to do."

Hipple has been responsible for a good portion of the team's success. In the 31-21 victory over the Dolphins on Oct. 27, he completed 14 of 19 passes for 239 yards and three touchdowns. For that performance, he was named the NFC Offensive Player of the Week.

"ERIC HIPPLE HAD his best day with us by far," said Rogers. "I don't know about him as a quarterback prior to this year. I'm sure he's had good days in the NFL. But today has to be gratifying for him, I'm sure."

Continued Page 10

## Detroit Lions' Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
3	Ed Murray	K	5-10	175	29	8	Tulane
11	Mike Black	P	6-2	197	24	3	Arizona St.
12	Joe Ferguson	QB	6-1	195	35	13	Arkansas
17	Eric Hipple	QB	6-2	198	28	6	Utah State
21	Demetrius Johnson	S	5-11	190	24	3	Missouri
23	Arnold Brown	CB	5-10	185	23	R	No. Carolina Cen.
24	Alvin Moore	RB	6-0	194	26	3	Arizona State
27	Bobby Watkins	CB	5-10	184	25	4	S.W. Texas St.
28	Wilbert Montgomery	RB	5-10	195	31	9	Ablene Christian
29	Bruce McNorton	CB	5-11	175	26	4	Georgetown Col.
30	James Jones	FB	6-2	229	24	3	Florida
32	Rick Kane	RB-FB	6-0	200	30	9	San Jose St.
33	William Graham	S	5-11	191	26	4	Texas
35	Alvin Hall	S	5-10	184	27	5	Miami (Ohio)
36	Mike Meade	FB	5-11	227	25	4	Penn. State
39	Leonard Thompson	WR	5-11	192	33	11	Oklahoma St.
42	John Bostic	CB	5-10	178	23	R	Beth-Cookman
50	August Curley	ILB	6-3	226	25	3	S. California
51	David Jones	C-G	6-3	260	23	2	Texas
52	Steve Mott	C	6-3	265	24	3	Alabama
53	Kevin Glover	C	6-2	267	22	R	Maryland
54	Roosevelt Barnes	OLB	6-2	228	27	4	Purdue
55	Mike Colfer	OLB	6-5	245	25	3	Tennessee
58	James Harrell	ILB	6-1	230	28	6	Florida
59	Jimmy Williams	OLB	6-3	230	24	4	Nebraska
62	Curtis Green	DE	6-3	258	28	5	Alabama St.
64	Larry Lee	G-C	6-3	263	26	5	UCLA
67	Don Greco	G	6-3	265	26	4	W. Illinois
68	Steve Baack	NT-DE	6-4	265	24	2	Oregon
70	Keith Dorney	T	6-5	270	27	7	Penn. State
71	Rich Strenger	T	6-7	276	25	2	Michigan
75	Lomas Brown	T	6-4	282	22	R	Florida
76	Eric Williams	DE-NT	6-4	280	23	2	Washington St.
78	Doug English	NT	6-5	258	32	10	Texas
79	William Gay	DE	6-5	260	30	8	S. California
80	Carl Bland	WR	5-11	182	24	2	VA Union
81	Reese McCall	TE	6-6	245	29	8	Auburn
82	Pete Mandley	WR-KR	5-10	191	24	2	N. Arizona
84	Rob Rubick	TE	6-3	234	25	4	Grand Valley St.
86	Mark Nichols	WR	6-2	208	25	5	San Jose St.
87	David Lewis	TE	6-3	235	24	2	California
89	Jeff Chadwick	WR	6-3	190	24	3	Grand Valley St.
92	Angelo King	OLB	6-1	222	27	5	S. Carolina State
95	Kurt Allerman	ILB	6-3	231	30	9	Penn. State
96	June James	OLB-ILB	6-1	218	22	R	Texas

### COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Darryl Rogers

Assistant Coaches: Bob Baker, Wayne Fontes, Carl Battershell, Paul Lanham, Bill Muir, Mike Murphy, Rex Norris, Willie Shaw, Ivy Williams



NT Doug English



DE William Gay



CB Bruce McNorton



WR Mark Nichols

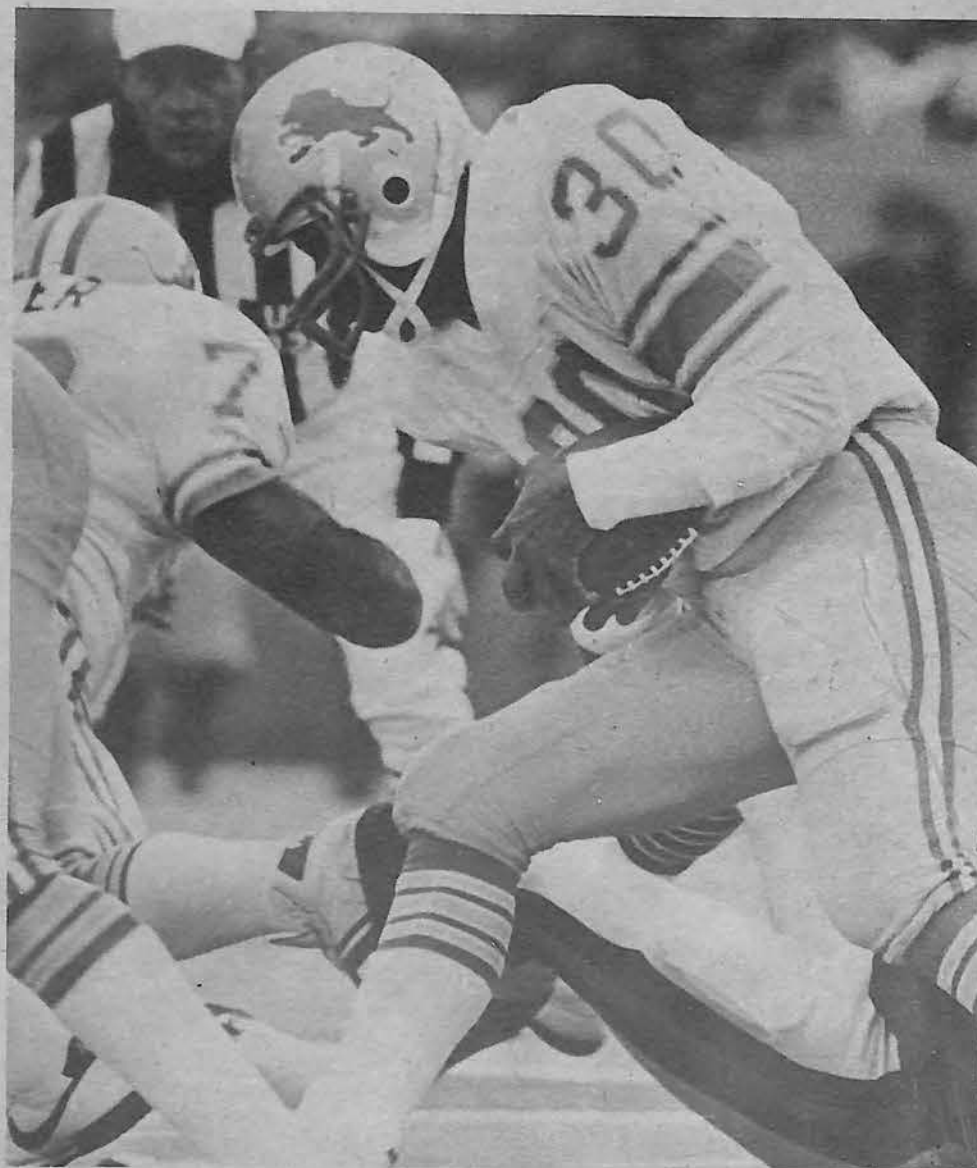


WR Leonard Thompson





DETROIT GUARD DON Greco (left) battles with Dan Hampton during last year's regular season finale. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)



DETROIT FULLBACK JAMES Jones (30) ranked 16th in the NFC in rushing after eight games with 354 yards. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

## Detroit vs. Chicago Lineups

### Lions' Defense

LE 76 Eric Williams, 62 Curtis Green  
 NT 78 Doug English, 76 Eric Williams  
 RE 79 William Gay, 62 Curtis Green  
 OLB 59 Jimmy Williams, 92 Angelo King  
 ILB 50 August Curley, 95 Kurt Allerman  
 ILB 95 Kurt Allerman, 58 James Harrell  
 OLB 55 Michael Cofer, 54 Roosevelt Barnes  
 LCB 27 Bobby Watkins, 23 Arnold Brown  
 RCB 29 Bruce McNorton, 42 John Bostic  
 SS 21 Demetrious Johnson, 33 William Graham  
 FS 33 William Graham, 35 Alvin Hall

### Lions' Offense

WR 39 Leonard Thompson, 82 Pete Mandley  
 LT 75 Lomas Brown, 71 Rich Strenger  
 LG 51 David Jones, 67 Don Greco  
 C 52 Steve Mott, 53 Kevin Glover  
 RG 67 Don Greco, 70 Keith Dorney  
 RT 70 Keith Dorney, 71 Rich Strenger  
 TE 87 David Lewis, 81 Reese McCall  
 WR 86 Mark Nichols, 82 Pete Mandley  
 QB 17 Eric Hipple, 12 Joe Ferguson  
 RB 28 Wilbert Montgomery, 24 Alvin Moore  
 FB 30 James Jones, 32 Rick Kane

### Lions' Specialists

PK 3 Eddie Murray, 11 Mike Black  
 P 11 Mike Black, 3 Eddie Murray  
 H 17 Eric Hipple, 11 Mike Black  
 PC 51 David Jones, 64 Larry Lee  
 KC 51 David Jones, 64 Larry Lee  
 PR 82 Pete Mandley, 35 Alvin Hall  
 KR 82 Pete Mandley, 35 Alvin Hall

### Bears' Offense

WR 83 Willie Gault, 82 Ken Margerum  
 LT 74 Jim Covert, 71 Andy Frederick  
 LG 62 Mark Bortz, 57 Tom Thayer  
 C 63 Jay Hilgenberg, 60 Tom Andrews  
 RG 57 Tom Thayer, 75 Stefan Humphries  
 RT 78 Keith Van Horne, 71 Andy Frederick  
 TE 87 Emery Moorehead, 80 Tim Wrightman  
 RB 34 Walter Payton, 29 Dennis Gentry  
 FB 26 Matt Suhey, 33 Calvin Thomas  
 QB 9 Jim McMahon, 4 Steve Fuller  
 WR 85 Dennis McKinnon, 86 Brad Anderson

### Bears' Defense

LE 73 Mike Hartenstine, 98 Tyrone Keys  
 LT 76 Steve McMichael, 72 William Perry  
 RT 99 Dan Hampton, 72 William Perry  
 RE 95 Richard Dent, 98 Tyrone Keys  
 LLB 55 Otis Wilson, 51 Jim Morrissey  
 MLB 50 Mike Singletary, 59 Ron Rivera  
 RLB 58 Wilber Marshall, 59 Ron Rivera  
 SS 22 Dave Duerson, 23 Shaun Gayle  
 FS 45 Gary Fencik, 23 Shaun Gayle  
 LC 27 Mike Richardson, 48 Reggie Phillips  
 RC 21 Leslie Frazier, 31 Ken Taylor

### Bears' Specialists

PK 6 Kevin Butler  
 P 8 Maury Buford  
 PC 63 Jay Hilgenberg, 57 Tom Thayer  
 KC 63 Jay Hilgenberg, 57 Tom Thayer  
 H 4 Steve Fuller, 18 Mike Tomczak  
 PR 31 Ken Taylor, 85 Dennis McKinnon  
 KR 83 Willie Gault, 29 Dennis Gentry

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# Lions

Continued From Page 8

Hipple said it was a team effort which helped him have his best game of '85.

"Teams develop personalities," he said. "They tend to take on a certain character you can recognize. This team has found it has the capability of hitting big plays. First, you control the line of scrimmage, and then you keep the opposing defense off balance. That's what we've been building for."

**AS HAS BEEN THE** case in past seasons, the Lions have been deadly at home but have been a bomb on the road. Through eight games, they were 4-0 at the Silverdome but only 1-3 away from the Big Top. The road losses included an embarrassing 43-10 shellacking at the hands of the Packers.

Through eight games, the Lion offense ranked a lowly 26th in the NFL (23rd rushing, 24th passing) as the unit averaged just 281 yards per game. Yet Hipple, who had a 78.0 quarterback rating, had come up with the big plays, including nine touchdown passes. His favorite targets have been wideouts Jeff Chadwick,

Leonard Thompson and Mark Nichols. Chadwick led the team with 24 catches for 468 yards and three touchdowns, while Thompson had 21 for 313. Nichols caught 17 for 270.

The team's running game had been virtually non-existent until week seven when fullback James Jones broke the 100-yard barrier for the first time of his career in the 23-21 win over the 49ers. The following week vs. Miami, Jones racked up 114 yards on 36 carries and that brought his season total up to 354.

**"WE KNOW IF WE** can keep running the ball, we'll keep the other team's offense off the field. When I'm used as the only rusher in the backfield, I know I'll get the ball often," says Jones.

The Lions' offensive line is anchored by rookie Lomas Brown (left) and Keith Dorney (right) at the tackles. The guards are David Jones (left) and Don Greco (right) while the center is Steve Mott.

Through eight games, the Lion defense ranked 23rd in the NFL (28th vs. rush, 12th vs. pass). It had allowed an average of 367 yards per game. One thing which has hurt the Lion defense is injuries. Six linebackers are on injured-reserve including regulars Ken Fantetti and James Harrell.

**THROUGH EIGHT GAMES** the team's tackle leader was free safety William Graham. He had 61 tackles (41 solos) and one in-

terception. Cornerback Bruce McNorton had 48 tackles (40 solos) and six pass defenses. Strong safety Demetrius Johnson led the club in interceptions with three. The sack leader was outside linebacker Jimmy Williams who had four.

Placekicker Eddie Murray had connected on 13 of 16 field goal attempts through eight games and ranked fifth in the conference with 55 points. Punter Mike Black ranked fifth with a 43.4 average. Punt returner Pete Mandley ranked third with a 12.2 average. Kick returner Alvin Hall had only a 19.9 average.

"After the first half of the season, I would hope that our people would be excited enough and happy enough to keep getting up for their work," says Rogers. "I'm learning a lot every week about players in the NFL and how they can get up to play."

## Doug's Picks

**BEARS** by SIX over LIONS  
*Detroit can be decent at times.*

**EAGLES** by TEN over FALCONS  
*Philly gets back on track.*

**BROWNS** by THREE over BENGALS  
*Cleveland wins the battle of Ohio.*

**REDSKINS** by THREE over COWBOYS  
*Washington gets back into the race.*

**VIKINGS** by SIX over PACKERS  
*Grant has a shot at Wild Card.*

**OILERS** by THREE over BILLS  
*Houston is playing quite well.*

**PATRIOTS** by TEN over COLTS  
*New England is red hot.*

**RAIDERS** by THREE over CHARGERS  
*L.A. is angry!*

**GIANTS** by THREE over RAMS  
*N.Y. is a better team.*

**JETS** by TWO over DOLPHINS  
*Miami is in big trouble.*

**STEELERS** by THREE over CHIEFS  
*Pittsburgh is back in the groove.*

**BUCCANEERS** by TWO over CARDINALS  
*Finally, a Tampa Bay win.*

**SEAHAWKS** by FIVE over SAINTS  
*Seattle is back in form.*

**49ERS** by SIX over BRONCOS  
*S.F. isn't dead yet.*

**Last week's record:** 6-7 vs. final line (46 percent)

**Actual winners:** 10 out of 13 (77 percent)

**Season record:** 67-58 vs. final line (54 percent)

**Actual winners:** 84 out of 125 (67 percent)

**NOTE:** Doug makes his picks before the opening lines are announced.



**AFTER EIGHT GAMES,** Detroit placekicker Eddie Murray (3) was fifth in conference scoring with 55 points. He had connected on 13 of 16 field goals. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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# Expectations Mounting For Bears

Will the Bears be able to repeat in 1986? That's the next story to expect during Bear hoopla. You know the kind. Getting to the Super Bowl is easy the first time. Getting back is the toughest part.

How will the Bears handle success? Will there be jealousy? More holdouts?

**SAD TO SAY**, this year's fun could be over before it starts. As soon as the Bears went 8-0, people started asking about 16-0. They wanted the scoop. It's a story either way: "Player Predicts 16-0." Or "Player Predicts Loss."

The only reason people are asking about 16-0 is they didn't think to ask about 8-0. It sneaked up on them, and they don't want to be unprepared for 16-0.

The perfect start at the halfway point is a good sign. Five other teams have had 8-0 beginnings since the NFC-AFC merger in 1970. The 1972 Dolphins stayed undefeated and won the Super Bowl. The 1973 Vikings finished 12-2 and lost the Super Bowl to the Dolphins.

**THE 1975 VIKINGS** went 12-2 and lost their first divisional playoff game to the Cowboys. The 1977 Cowboys went 12-2 and won the Super Bowl. The 1984 Dolphins went 14-2 and lost the Super Bowl to the 49ers.

That means four of the last five 8-0 teams have made it to the Super Bowl. But did they make it back? That's the real story.

In an era of media hype and instant success, it is sometimes impossible to enjoy the moment. The Bears are trying hard to enjoy and to concentrate on the moment. For the media, the "real" story might be past failures or future successes. For the Bears, the only thing real is now — Wednesday's practice, Sunday's game, Monday's film. The next block and the next tackle are as far as they dare look.

**"I FANTASIZE,"** said coach Mike Ditka. "I'll be in the car and start thinking about situations down the road. I have to stop myself. It doesn't do any good. I think about going back to Dallas. It's hard not to think about, but you can't think about those things."

If that is the only coaching Ditka does for the remainder of the season, it could be enough.

"We compare favorably to the good teams because of

our attitude," he said. "The good teams never assume anything. They go out and play. You don't want anybody to think how good you are, you want to prove it every week. These guys seem to be doing that. They seem to be having fun doing it."

**BUT WHAT ABOUT** the pressure?

"I don't think there's any pressure," said tackle Jim Covert. "There's a lot of pressure when you're losing, too. We're trying to have fun enjoying what we're doing. There's an old cliché in sports that you take them one game at a time. It's as true a cliché as was ever said."



By  
Don  
Pierson

After proving they can handle the physical part of the game during the first half of the year, the Bears must now prove they can handle the mental aspects.

They will be asked to play mind games as well as good games.

"I've heard people say that maybe if we lose a game, it would prepare us better for the playoffs. I don't think that way at all," said Covert at 8-0. "Why not go 16-0? I'm not trying to make any predictions. I just feel if we keep playing the way we're playing, we could do that maybe."

If not, so what?

**"NOTHING WOULD** happen if we lost a game. It would make us work harder and be hungry," said linebacker Otis Wilson. "Nothing wrong with losing. Joe Montana and the 49ers lost. Part of winning is losing."

Wilson's message was clear.

They asked Ditka if his team was loose. He said yes. They asked if that meant cocky.

**"I SAID, 'HOLD ON.' Did you ask if we were cocky or loose?"** we're loose; we're not cocky. It would be foolish to get uptight. So what if we happen to lose? We still end up playing the next one," said Ditka.

What seems to make these Bears unique is how they play more than how they win. They truly seem to enjoy the game as much as the result. They are having as much fun on the field as off.

Somehow they seem to have learned the lesson that winning might be the only thing, but playing hard is the only thing they can control.

**WHEN THEY BEAT** the Vikings all over the field for their eighth victory, establishing a dominance within the NFC Central Division that was last enjoyed by the Vikings of nearly a decade ago, the Bears were critical of themselves.

They had won, yes, but they had not played as well as they thought they should have.

"Our run blocking could have been much better," said Covert.

**ALL THE LINEMEN** were dissatisfied over their run-blocking, yet the 202 yards rushing was a season high.

"We don't block a soul and Walter still gets 118 yards," said tackle Keith Van Horne.

"We're 8-0, but we've yet to play a complete ball game," said quarterback Jim McMahon. "The offense only scored 20 points. We could have had 50 points."

**AFTER EIGHT GAMES**, the Bears led the league in scoring and in scoring defense.

"But to be truthful, after you evaluate it, you see we're making mistakes," said Wilson. "I don't know if anybody can play the perfect game, but if we can eliminate some of the things we're doing, we might really mess somebody up."

Then they would be having real fun.



DEFENSIVE TACKLE DAN Hampton (left) records a sack on Packer quarterback Jim Zorn. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)



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# Bears' Cumulative Stats

## NINE-GAME TOTALS

### TEAM STATISTICS

	Bears	Opp.
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	190	146
TOTAL NET YARDS	3348	2687
Avg. Per Game	372.0	298.5
NET YARDS RUSHING	1471	726
Avg. Per Game	163.4	80.6
NET YARDS PASSING	1877	1961
Avg. Per Game	208.5	217.8
PENALTIES/YARDS	61/508	78/610
FUMBLES/BALLS LOST	15/10	14/18
TOUCHDOWNS	29	15

## SCORE BY PERIODS

	1	2	3	4	OT	TTL
Bears	40	84	72	59	—	255
Opponents	34	53	14	23	—	124

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Payton	162	844	5.2	27	7
Suhey	63	249	3.9	17	1
McMahon	34	182	5.3	19	2
Sanders	18	77	4.3	28	0
Gentry	14	56	4.0	15	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Payton	32	231	7.2	32	2

McKinnon	25	461	18.4	48	7
Suhey	24	183	7.6	21	1
Moorehead	23	319	13.9	25	1
Gault	19	380	20.0	70	1
Wrightman	12	216	18.0	49	0
Margerum	10	103	10.3	18	0

PASSING	Att.	Cmp.	Yds.	Pct.	TD	Int.
McMahon	231	136	1796	58.8	13	7
Fuller	28	16	181	57.1	0	1
Payton	2	1	13	50.0	1	0

## DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

PLAYER	TTL	T	A	FR	PD	SK	INT.
Fencik	77	57	13	0	7	0	4
Singletary	72	58	14	0	5	3	1
Marshall	44	32	12	1	4	4	4
Frazier	40	35	5	0	9	0	3
McMichael	35	30	5	1	1	5.5	0
Duerson	35	32	3	0	7	1	3
Wilson	32	24	8	1	3	5	2
Richardson	25	23	2	0	15	0	2
Dent	18	17	1	0	6	7	1
Hartenstine	17	14	3	0	1	1	0
Hampton	16	15	1	3	1	4.5	0
Perry	11	9	2	0	0	1	0
Gayle	10	8	2	1	0	0	0

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# Leslie Frazier Misses Bell and Harris

Les Frazier is one of the mainstays of the Bears' secondary and the five-year NFL veteran thus knows whereof he speaks when casting his experienced eyes on this year's Chicago defense.

"Early on, our defense had some problems but lately we've been getting better," the cornerback says. "I don't know quite how to pinpoint those problems or say what they were, but we were not playing as well as we have been lately."

"AND LOOKING AT the way things've been going, I think that we're going to keep improving. I don't know if we are yet at the same point where we were last season, but one thing I do know is that we've caused a lot more turnovers, which has helped our offense tremendously."

One element not contributing to the hoped-for betterment of the Bears' defense has been the absence of Todd Bell and Al Harris. "From week to week, it's been tough," Frazier admits, "not knowing what's going on, only what you read in the newspapers."

By  
Michael  
Haggerty



"I know that I was thinking 'they may be coming any week now.' But in the last two or three weeks I've been putting it out of my mind. If they come in, great. If not, then I know that the guys already here have got to do the job."

"BUT I DO MISS those two guys," he goes on. "They're very good friends of mine, and they're great ballplayers. I still can't understand why they're not here at this point in the season. I still can't believe that they're not here."

"It hasn't registered with me yet. I still hope and pray that things will work out. I know that the deadline is Nov. 23. I hope that somehow they'll be here before Nov. 23. I'm really surprised that nothing has happened yet. There's probably a lot going on that we don't know anything about. I really miss those guys."

Frazier is mindful of Harris' past contributions to the team, contributions not present thus far this season.

"WHEN I THINK about Big Al, I think about all the experience he has. That experience factor stems from his six years in the league, with last year being an outstanding season for him," he points out.

"He keeps everybody loose on the defense; he's a real joker at times. But at the same time he's a very sincere guy, an honest guy. You can always talk to him about anything. I have a lot of respect for Big Al as a person, as well as for how he is as a player."

Ditto for Bell. "Todd is a guy who wants to be the very best. He puts nothing above giving the maximum effort every time he goes out onto that field — whether it's a game or practice or on a Saturday before a game, when everybody else is taking it easy," Frazier attests. "Todd goes full speed all the time."

THE MOST CELEBRATED rookie on the Bears' defense is William Perry, whose offensive exploits and off-the-field activities have been putting him into the media spotlight. Frazier sees the Fridge as a defensive force to be reckoned with.

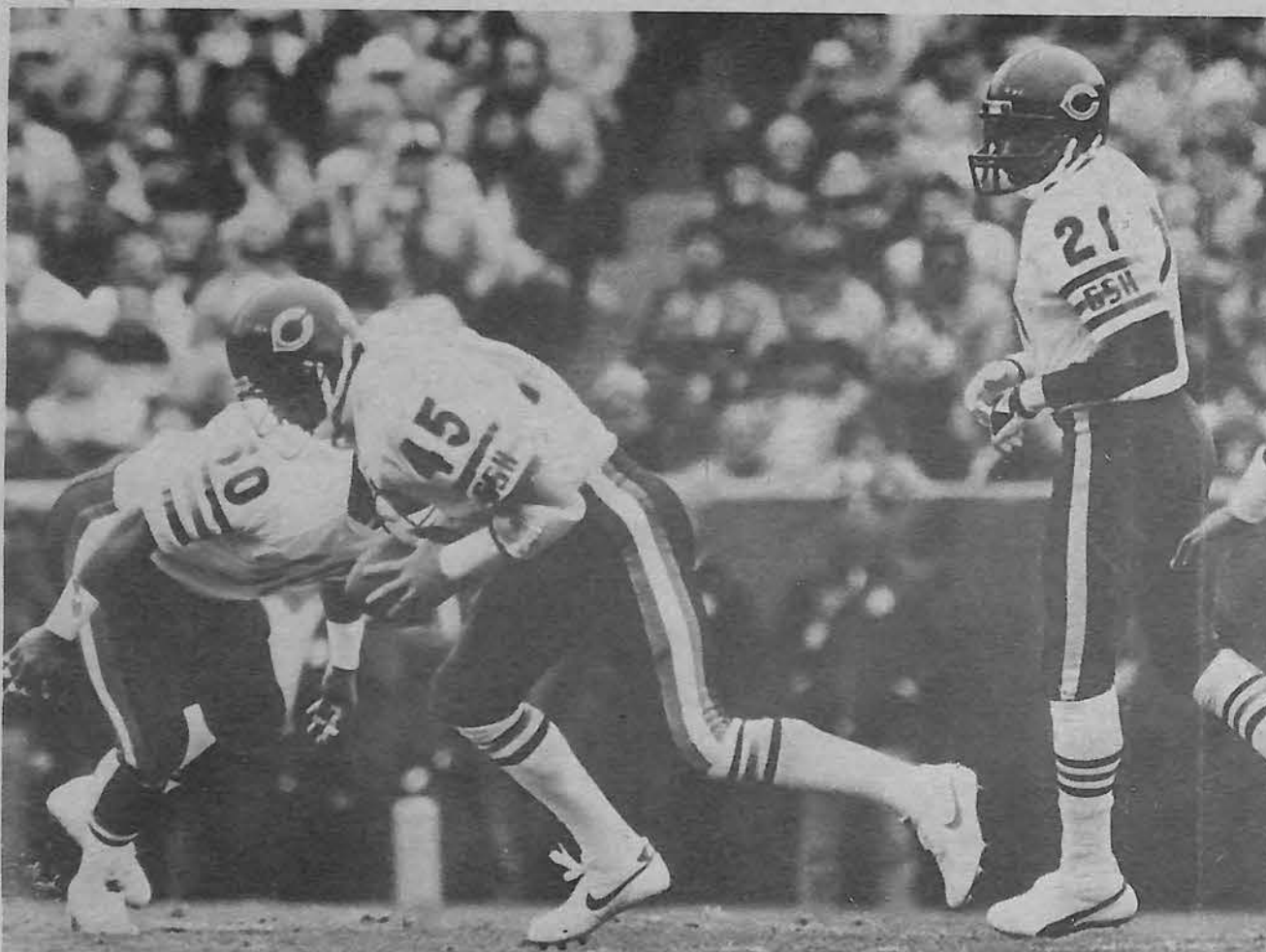
Perry was destined to be challenged by the opposition while going around the league for the first time, and those tests are bound to continue.

"They'll try to run at him, just to see if he can handle the straight-ahead play. If they find out that he can, then they'll try to run the ball laterally. He has the quickness and the mobility and the agility to get out there and run with the backs who are trying to go to the outside," Frazier marvels.

"WE HAVEN'T HAD a chance to see him over a whole season yet, but from what I've seen, his ability to play against the run is going to be a big asset for us on short yardage and goal line defenses."

"That's been something we've been kind of hurting on for the last few years," he continues. "Having him in the middle to clog up things — I think that's going to make a big difference for our defense. As time goes on he is going to learn the passing game a lot better and be able to outmaneuver the offensive linemen after he learns what they're trying to do."

"In college ball offensive players aren't able to use their hands against the defense as much as they can in the



CORNERBACK LESLIE FRAZIER (21) watches safety Gary Fencik make an interception in the first half of last Sunday's game. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

NFL. That's an adjustment he's going to have to make. He's going to make it, too. He's going to be an outstanding plus for us."

FRAZIER KNOWS THAT all rookies are inevitably faced with such challenges, and that those with bigger reputations in football circles get tested with even more fervor.

"They tried the same thing with Richard Dent. They knew he was a great pass rusher coming out of college, so what did they do? They tried to run the trap at him, have a guard stand up like he's going to pass block and run a guy right at him," Frazier says.

"They're going to do the same thing with William Perry, knowing that he's supposed to be pretty good against the run. What they're going to do is try to deceive him,

maybe try to make him stay at the line of scrimmage and wait for the run. They may run a draw once he starts going up the field. They're going to test him to see what he's made of."

## Radio, TV Coverage

Like television coverage (on WBBM, channel 2) of next Sunday's Bears-Lions game will begin at 11 a.m. with *The Mike Ditka Show*. That is followed by the *NFL Today* at 11:30 a.m. and kickoff is at noon. Live radio coverage will be carried on the Bears' WGN (720) Radio Network with Wayne Larrivee calling the play-by-play and analysis by Dick Butkus and Jim Hart.

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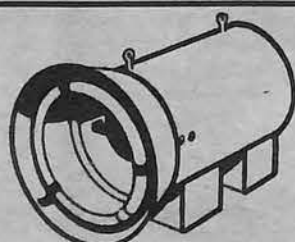
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# Bears Win

Continued From Page 3

the winning touchdown against the Packers on a 27-yard run early in the fourth quarter.

"His exhibition was as good as I've ever seen a guy with a football under his arm play. He went after it all day running the ball. Our line has to be given a lot of credit because they blocked a lot of unusual schemes which included a lot of blitzing," said Ditka.

On a day when QB Jim McMahon had problems connecting with his receivers (9 of 20, 91 yards, 1 TD), it was fortunate Payton was in top form. The Bears were also fortunate they can use the Refrigerator in goal line situations on offense. Late in the first half, William Perry scored the game's opening touchdown on a four-yard pass from McMahon. Nobody covered him on the play.

"IT WAS A GREATLY designed play by Ed Hughes," said Ditka. "Perry is moving right into the top echelon. He's only 698 behind (Don) Maynard."

The Bears totally dominated the first half yet went into the locker room with just a 7-3 advantage. When the Packers scored a touchdown on a 55-yard pass from QB Jim Zorn to FB Jessie Clark midway through the third quarter, which gave the Pack a 10-7 advantage, it appeared the Bears' winning streak may be in jeopardy.

For the first time this season, the Bears went into the final quarter trailing their opponent. But the momentum began to shift early in the fourth stanza when McMichael sacked Zorn in the end zone for a safety to close the gap to 10-9.

"WE WERE IN A 46 on that play," said Mongo. "The tackle had to drop back and get (Richard) Dent and they single blocked me. I beat my guy around the corner. Zorn is left handed and he didn't see me coming."

The safety was set up by a poor decision on the part of Green Bay punt returner Phil Epps. Instead of letting Maury Buford's kick roll into the end zone for a touchdown, he called for a fair catch at his own four-yard line. Three plays later, Zorn was sacked.

"WE TEACH OUR kids not to catch the ball inside the 10-yard line," said Ditka. "Our first rule is you don't catch the ball inside the 10."

The sack was followed with a free kick by the Packers.



WILLIE GAULT GAINS first-down yardage on a shovel pass but the play was nullified due to a penalty. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

It was returned 16 yards by WR Dennis McKinnon to the Packer 49. Three plays later, Payton scored the winning touchdown.

Early in the game, a Payton error set up the first Packer score. On the second play from scrimmage, Payton fumbled when hit by LB Brian Noble. The ball was recovered by DE Ezra Johnson at the Bear 29. Four plays later, Al Del Greco connected on a 40-yard field goal to give the home team a 3-0 advantage.

THE BEARS' NEXT drive fizzled when McMahon was sacked on consecutive plays while attempting to pass. "Our pass protection left a lot to be desired early," said Ditka.

"The first half, we weren't doing too much," said OT Keith Van Horne. "A lot of the time, Jim didn't have the time he needed."

THE BEARS' NEXT drive ended on the Packer 35. The Bears went for it on fourth-and-one but McMahon's pass intended for WR Willie Gault was knocked down by DB Mossy Cade.

"We had a good play on to run. We should have left it on and hit it power with power. The kid (Cade) made a good play to knock the ball down," said Ditka.

While the Bear offense couldn't get going, the Chicago defense continued to stop the Packers. In the first quarter, Gary Fencik recorded the 34th interception of his career when he nabbed a stray Zorn pass.

WITH 5:42 LEFT in the first half, the Bears began their first scoring drive. McMahon drove the team 65 yards in 12 plays and connected with Perry for the six-pointer. The drive included a 15-yard run by Payton and a 12-yard pass to TE Tim Wrightman.

Midway through the third quarter, the Packer offense finally got into gear. Some good running plays got the ball out to midfield before Zorn connected with Clark on a 55-yard scoring pass to give the home team the lead at 10-7. Fencik had the only shot at stopping Clark before he got into the end zone but didn't have the proper angle.

"It was the same play that worked against us in the Monday night game," said Fencik. "If I would have made that tackle it would have been an incredible tackle. I thought maybe the corner could help, but Kenny (Taylor) was covering (James) Lofton man-to-man and didn't see the play."

DESPITE THE BIG play, the Packers compiled just 242 net yards.

"We really did a good job against the Packers except for that one play," said Fencik. "Actually, we haven't given up more than one touchdown in the last five weeks."

While some people expected the Bears to romp over the Pack, based on the two team's records, Hilgenberg said a win is a win.

"WE DON'T CARE how much we win by or how we look doing it, as long as we win," said Hilgy. "It's been tough for the Bears to win up here in the past. It's nice to beat the Packers twice in the same season."

"It may not sit very good with them that they lost to us twice this year, but two years ago, they beat us twice and it didn't sit very good with me," said DT Dan Hampton.

"We're very fortunate to win. This is by far our toughest game. I'm very happy to get the heck out of this town with a win," said Ditka.

GAME NOTES: The Bears' 9-0 start is their best since 1942 and this is their 10th straight regular season victory. . . The Bears have won eight straight road games against NFC Central teams and have won 15 of their last 16 against NFC Central clubs overall. They are 6-0 against NFC Central teams this year. . . The Bears are 20-4 in the last 24 games Jim McMahon has started. . . The Bears controlled the clock for two more minutes than the Packers and have held a possession time advantage in 32 of their last 33 games. . . Since 1984, the Bears are 16-1 in games which they led at half time and have outrushed 28 of their last 30 opponents. . . Walter Payton has rushed for 554 yards in the last four games. . . The Bears have come from behind to win six of their nine games. . . S Gary Fencik is just three interceptions shy of Richie Petitbon's all-time Bear record of 37.

## Ditka Comments On Survey

At a press conference last week, head coach Mike Ditka commented on a recent survey of NFL players which appeared in **SPORTS ILLUSTRATED**. The survey ranked Ditka, Tom Landry and Don Shula as the three coaches the players would least like to play for.

"Probably those 200 players (who were polled) couldn't play for Tom, Don or I," said Ditka. "They're probably lazy butts who wouldn't want to pay the price."

"I CAN UNDERSTAND me. But a guy who wouldn't want to play for Landry or Shula has got to be a lazy bum. Because those guys have won and won consistently."

"A guy is either stupid, doesn't like winning, doesn't like extra money at the end of the year for going to the Super Bowl and playoffs, or he's lazy."

"Me? I haven't done anything. They could say, 'He gets mad at his players or he hollers at his players.'"



TIGHT END TIM Wrightman gains 17 yards on a Jim McMahon pass to set up Walter Payton's game-winning touchdown. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

## Next Week's Issue

Next week's issue of the **BEAR REPORT** will feature extensive coverage of the Bears-Lions game. It will also include a detailed preview of the upcoming road contest at Dallas.

## Home Games Sold Out

All remaining Bears' home games are sold out. Because of the sell outs, the final three regular season games at Soldier Field will be televised live in the Chicago area.

## Still Tops In Polls

For the fifth consecutive week, the Bears received all 70 first place votes in a poll of the board of directors of the Pro Football Writers Association. The Bears are also ranked first in polls which appeared in last week's editions of the **FOOTBALL NEWS** and the **DALLAS COWBOYS WEEKLY**.

## League Rankings

Through eight weeks of regular season play, the Bears' offense led the NFL in scoring with 239 points. It ranked second in total net yards with 3,095. The offense was second rushing and seventh passing. Only Dallas had compiled more yards. The offense also led the NFL in average time of possession with a 33:23 mark.

The Bears' defense led the NFL in least points allowed with 114. The defense ranked 11th in yards allowed (1st vs. the rush and 23rd vs. the pass). As a team, the Bears led the NFL in turnover differential with a mark of plus-12. They had recorded 21 interceptions while recovering eight fumbles and had given up eight interceptions and nine fumbles.

In individual categories, QB Jim McMahon ranked first in the NFL with a 91.0 rating. PK Kevin Butler led the NFL in kick scoring with 75 points (16 field goals, 27 extra points). Willie Gault led the league in kickoff return average with a 29.5 mark.

Punter Maury Buford led the NFC with a 45.7 average. RB Walter Payton ranked fourth in rushing with 652 yards and placed second in touchdown scoring with eight. WR Dennis McKinnon ranked third in touchdown scoring with seven. LB Wilbert Marshall was tied for third in interceptions with four. DE Richard Dent was tied for fifth in sacks with seven. Punt returner Ken Taylor ranked 10th with a 7.6 mark.



## Bear Report Letters

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BEAR REPORT welcomes all Letters to the Editor. Due to space limitations, it may be necessary to shorten letters to fill the space available. BEAR REPORT does not necessarily agree with the views stated in the letters we receive. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

### O.J.'s Fumbling Mouth

Dear Bears:

I'm writing today to express an opinion I believe many people have on the ABC crew of *Monday Night Football* and their direct insults to our team.

A few years ago all we heard was that the Bears were flat as usual, now we hear the bumbling, fumbling mouth of OJ (who I might add can't talk as well as he used to run) nor can he remember the names of the players. But when it comes to criticizing one or all of our players, he is sure quick on the mouth then.

The Bears are not always going to play error-free football, as all the teams do not play error-free. I think the fact that we are now 7-0 because of a lot of imagination on the coaching staff and players' part is a fantastic accomplishment and if we use more imagination than other teams, this means that we are more than worthy of our 7-0 record that we now hold.

Bears, take heart — we, the Bear fans are proud of you, will stand by you (as most of us have through the good times and bad times) and we also do not intend to believe anything the sportscasters on Channel 7 say about you other than the fact that you are a very fine football team that you've worked so hard to create.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Janowski  
Skokie, IL

### The 'WP' Offense

Dear Doug,

Some teams use the "I" formation; others use the wishbone;

and now the Chicago Bears have started the most fearsome offense in football: the "WP" offense — William Perry and Walter Payton.

Robert Masur  
Omaha, NE

### The Smother Brothers!

Dear Editor:

Every great defense has had a great nickname. And after watching the Bears last night on Monday night Football, I came up with MY choice for the Bears' defensive nickname: THE SMOTHER BROTHERS!

Tom Sacco  
West Des Moines, IA

### Bad Move With Perry

Dear Doug,

I have been a Bears' fan for the 21 years of my life. I think Mike Ditka is a great coach, and though it may sound strange with the Bears' record as fantastic as it is, I'm disappointed in Mike's decision of using William Perry as a fullback in the (first) Green Bay game.

I found it to be very discriminating against Matt Suhey, who I feel is a great fullback. Mike has enough confidence in Matt to have him bulldoze his way down the field collecting bumps and bruises, but doesn't feel he's qualified enough to gain TD stats! That's bull! All I can say is, "You're a great fullback Matt!"

Julie Kubinski  
Lockport, IL

### Ecstatic Over '85 Season

Dear BEAR REPORT,

Since Mike Ditka and staff seem to be doing just fine without me, I am not writing to offer any of my expertise advice. What I am writing for is to offer a sincere thank you for your publication and to say that the wife and I are ecstatic with the '85 season. I have been a Bear fan (absolute) since the days of Luckman, Turner and George McAffee, but living in this small Alabama town, we don't get the information we would like to have on the team. Your paper gives us that information.

Robert F. Berndt  
Muscle Shoals, AL

P.S.: My wife has fallen in love with Perry.

### Loves National TV Games

Dear Doug,

Your paper is great and is getting better each week. Down here in Dolphin country we don't get much news from up north.

It's sure great to see our Bears back on national TV more this year.

Sure was glad to see them get revenge against San Francisco. Went right down after the game and I got my tickets for the Dolphin game Dec. 2. There will be a lot of Bear fans in the stadium rooting for Chicago.

1985 — YEAR OF THE BEARS. SUPER BOWL HERE WE COME!!!

Sincerely,  
Arthur B. Dunn  
Miami, FL

### Hail To The Fridge!

Dear BEAR REPORT:

Mike Ditka is a fun coach. Sending William Perry out for the final two rushes (at San Francisco) was stupendous. His gentle rice cake walk could cause Chinatown to swallow up in the ground and make the 49ers swallow their chopsticks. But the Bears already did that, even without McKinnon, Moorehead, and Bell and Harris (who are those last two?)

I would like to say to Nate Lehmman in the letter column, "You are ignorant (and possibly stupid) for throwing all your crap at Mike Ditka and throwing all your praise to Ryan. How much of a Bear fan are you? And no, I don't believe you're just being realistic about things. Ditka has the offense going again."

This is truly the most fun Bear team to watch since I've been alive. McMahon, Gault, Payton, Fencik, Perry and Van Horne are all fun to watch play. Ditka's gadget plays are so interesting that if the Bears keep winning they might be called America's team, which I would absolutely hate. That won't happen, I'd eat a thousand pounds of sukiyaki and chop Suhey if it does.

And there was a great job by the offensive and defensive lines in the 49er game. I have to agree with Doug Buffone that the offensive line players are the Bears' unsung heroes.

Lee Kuo  
Toledo, OH

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WALTER PAYTON BREAKS away for some of his 192 rushing yards. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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# Walter Payton Has Another Record-Setting Day

By Mark Friedlander  
Editor

GREEN BAY, WI — Apparently nobody has told Walter Payton that 11-year running backs aren't supposed to play like youngsters.

Payton has had a career filled with amazing performances but his display in last Sunday's 16-10 victory over the Packers has to rank as one of the best Payton shows of all time. He rushed for 192 yards on 28 carries (6.9 average) and scored the game-winning touchdown on a 27-yard scamper in the fourth quarter. In the process, he surpassed the 14,000-yard career rushing mark

and now has a total of 14,153. The 192-yard performance tied for the third best game of his career.

"I HAVEN'T SEEN Payton at his best. The best is yet to come," said head coach Mike Ditka. "It was incredible what he did today. He only practiced about a half a practice last week because his calf was bothering him."

"When I'm out on the field, I really don't realize how many yards Walter is getting," said C Jay Hilgenberg. "I just go block where I'm supposed to."

"Walter was phenomenal," added OT Keith Van Horne. "He ran his butt off."

PAYTON ALMOST DIDN'T get a chance to perform his magic due to a cheap shot instilled by Packer cornerback Mark Lee in the first quarter. Lee rode Payton out of bounds and nailed him into the Bear bench. For that incident, Lee was tossed out of the game.

"He just kept pushing me when I was on the sideline and I was pushed over the benches," Payton said. "I was trying to get away from him and a scuffle started. It was a very intense game. Once you get it started, it's hard to turn it off. He might have been a victim of that."

While Payton wouldn't admit it, it was quite clear his biggest motivation for turning on the afterburners was the cheap shot inflicted on fullback Matt Suhey by Packer rookie Ken Stills.

"IT WAS A VERY physical ball game," Payton added. "The two teams just kept going at each other. It was like that old game of rock 'em, sock 'em robots where you try to knock the other guy's block off."

Payton said there was a lot of verbal abuse directed at him by the Packers but it only added fuel to his fire.

"A lot of people said things to me out there. It's like water off the back. I found out when other teams egg me, all it does is motivate me. It doesn't work," Payton said.

•THE PACKERS MUST be thrilled they won't have to deal with William "the Refrigerator" Perry again this season. In the Monday night battle on Oct. 21, Perry provided key blocks on two Payton touchdown runs and carried the ball in on another score. Last Sunday, he lined up in the offensive backfield again. This time he went out for a pass and QB Jim McMahon obliged. The result: a four-yard touchdown play which gave the Bears a 7-3 lead in the second quarter.

"I've never caught a pass before," said Perry. "I just looked it in. I had control of it. They expected me to block and Jim threw me the pass. It surprised them."

Packer head coach Forrest Gregg said the play really didn't surprise his club.

"ONE OF THE linebackers (George Cumby) was supposed to cover him. In fact, we ran that same play in practice," he said. Perry's teammates are never surprised at what the Fridge does on the field.

"He's a fluke of nature. He's awfully effective at what he's doing," said S Gary Fencik. "He made a nice catch and completely fooled their defense. As long as he's effective on the goal line, he's gonna be in that goal line offense."

Perry also spent a great deal of time playing defense vs. the Packers. He was in the starting lineup at right tackle. Dan Hampton started at left end, replacing Mike Hartenstine. But defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan eventually took Perry out and put Hartenstine back in.



WILLIAM PERRY (72) SCORES a touchdown on a four-yard pass from Jim McMahon in the second quarter. (Bear Report photo by Jonathan Daniel)

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